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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			CHANNAVAJJALA, SRIRAMA T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2164	

DATE MAILED: 01/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/868,640

Applicant(s)

IMAMURA, KAYO

Examiner

Srirama Channavajjala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. Examiner acknowledges applicant's amendment filed on 7/22/2004.
2. Claims 1,3-19 have been amended on 7/22/2004
3. Claims 20-21 have been cancelled on 7/22/2004.

**Drawings**

4. The drawings filed on 8/4/2002 are approved by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152.

***Priority***

5. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) based upon an application SI.No.# 2000-040844 filed in Japan on 2/18/2000, SI.No.11-312561, filed on 11/2/1999.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

6. The information disclosure statement filed on 7/22/2004, 10/14/2004 comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), has been considered, a copy of each is herewith enclosed with this office action.

It is however, noted that the document 3061933 [IDS dated: 7/22/2004], and 1999-68557 {IDS filed on 10/14/2004} is not considered because these documents are NOT IN ENGLISH.

7. The information disclosure statement filed on 9/28/2001, 10/25/2001, and 12/4/2001 comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), has been considered, a copy of each is herewith enclosed with this office action, paper no. # 6.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1- 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Broerman, US Patent No. 6594633 in view of Stephan et al. "Interactive Modeling of 3D-environments", IEEE conference IECON, 1998.

9. As to Claim 1, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system that provides information regarding housing related

commodity to a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system'  
[see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1;

'a database which stores housing display data for display of an including information regarding a layout of a housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores housing display data corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17;

'a browser provider that provides the computer of the prospective purchaser with a browser that enables the prospective purchaser to see image of the housing on the computer in accordance with the database' [fig 5, col 9, line 45-49, col 10, line 9-15], browser corresponds to Broerman's fig 5, element 122, prospective purchaser corresponds to buyer as detailed in col 10, line 9-10, further it is noted that Broerman specifically teaches displaying property record that contains property graphics that corresponds to image of the property or housing on the computer system as detailed in col 9, line 45-49;

'the browser including at least a first display performing section that enables a display of an interior of the housing [fig 4-5], 'second display performing section that enables the prospective purchaser to change a view point from which the interior of the housing is seen'[fig 5A-5C, col 10, line 64-67, col 12, line 63-67], Broerman specifically

teches multiple listing service or MLS in which specific property or house features have been made available to the potential purchaser for viewing that corresponds to viewing interior and exterior of the housing;

'a data transmitter that transmits the housing display data stored in the database to the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system in response to a request from the browser provided on the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65, fig 1-2], Broerman specifically teaches a computer network for example having network interface, also connecting various various computers in a communication network that provides real estate services as detailed in fig 1-2;

It is however, noted that Broerman does not specifically teach 'display of an image of a housing', 'three-dimensional image of the housing'. On the other hand, Stephan specifically teaches 'display of an image of a housing', 'three-dimensional image of the housing' [see page 5-6, 3.2, fig 7a-7b], display of an image of a housing, three-dimensional image of the housing corresponds to Stephan's fig 7a-7b as detailed in page 5-6.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both Stephan, Broerman are directed to interactive computer system, more specifically Broerman is directed to real estate related information, Broerman also teaches real estate computer network, more

specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract, while Stephan specifically directed to interactive modeling of 3-D environments that including various applications for example one application being in industrial environments such as overview of a chemical factory layout in 3-d view, also teaches architecture of house and monuments for example as detailed in fig 7a-7b.

One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional models, especially OctoCAD model imported in various CAD programs because that would have allowed users of Broerman to display various real estate properties in 3-D viewing to the potential customers [both buyers and sellers], further more allows search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size or images of 3-D models as suggested by Stephan [see page 5-6], thus improving quality and reliability of the system.

10. As to Claim 2, Broerman teaches a system which including 'database is so configured as to store the housing display data in conjunction with information regarding an object of real-estate' [fig 4-5,col 9, line 9-12].

11. As to Claim 3, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a notice receiver that receives a notice from one of a terminal of a computer of a seller of the real estate object and the computer of the prospective purchaser that sales negotiation is going on

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with respect to a particular real estate object' [col 10, line 44-50], 'data transmitter is configured as to bar transmission of the housing display data relating to the real estate object under negotiation to a computer of another prospective purchaser when the notice receiver receives the notice' [col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-12], Broerman specifically teaches buyer and seller interacting with each other to exchange the information as detailed in col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-12.

12. As to Claim 4, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a purchaser information receiver that receives purchaser identifying information which identifies the prospective purchaser from the computer of the prospective purchaser' [see fig 5, col 8, line 66-67, col 9, line 1-8, col 10, line 63-67]; 'a contact information transmitter which, upon receipt of the purchaser identifying information by the purchaser information receiver, transmits address information of at least one of the prospective purchaser and a seller selling the real estate object, to the computer of the other' [fig 5, col 7, line 17-21, line 28-34], Broerman specifically suggests payment information that including credit card billing information and other customer profile information as detailed in col 7, line 22-24.

13. As to Claim 5, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a sales contract notice receiver that means receives a notice from one of the computer of a seller of the real estate object and a purchaser [col 7, line 54-56] that a sales contract regarding a



real estate object has been completed' [col 6, line 30-34, col 7, line 54-67, col 11, line 43-55];

'a database which upon receipt of the notice by the sales contract notice receiver stores information regarding the completed sales contract in conjunction with the contact information of the purchaser who purchased the real estate object, information regarding a date of completing the sales contract, and the housing display data for the purchased real estate' [col 8, line 1-19], Broerman specifically teaches electronic purchase contract, element 96, electronic contract tracking element 99 are part of real estate transaction as detailed in col 8, line 8-14;

'a memory that stores a reforming plan that restructures the purchased real estate object in the future, the reforming plan being created based on the housing display data' [col 8, line 23-26, col 9, line 25-30],

'a calculator that calculates based on the sales contract completion date, a time that the reforming plan is to be proposed' [col 9, line 30-34, col 11, line 13-16];

'a reforming plan presenter that presents the reforming plan to the purchaser when the calculated time arrives [col 13, line 7-22], Broerman specifically teaches purchase contract between buyer and seller with respective to time that has expiration as detailed in col 13, line 7-22.

14. As to Claim 6, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a data registration tool provider means which, upon request from a computer of a real estate object seller' [col 2, line 20-24], provides via the network system the database with a data registration

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tool with which the housing display data is registered via the network system' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16].

15. As to Claim 7, 10, Broerman teaches a system which including 'the database is configured to store a plurality of interior display data including information regarding an interior equipment of the housing' [col 9, line 12-17, line 25-30],

'the browser includes a third display section which displays' [see fig 5], 'the prospective purchaser selects interior equipment to be displayed' [col 7, line 28-30];

'the data transmitter being configured to transmit the interior display data stored in the database to the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system upon request from the browser on the computer of the prospective purchaser' [fig 1-2, abstract, col 8, line 56-65]. On the other hand, Stephan teaches 'displays an interior manipulating menu, displayed in the virtual space from the interior display data' [see fig 7a-7b, page 5-6].

16. As to Claim 8, Broerman teach 'store housing data' [see Broerman: fig 3, element 20;], it is however, noted that Stephan specifically teaches 'interior display data in conjunction with information regarding a commodity of the interior of the housing' [see fig 7a-7b, page 5-6]

17. As to Claim 9, Broerman disclosed 'a data registration tool provider which upon request from a terminal of the computer of an interior commodity seller [col 2, line 20-

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24], provides via the network system the database with a data registration tool with which the interior display data is registered via the network system' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16]

18. As to Claim 11-12, Stephan disclosed 'user is allowed to select a location of the furniture to be displayed in the virtual space' [fig 7a-7b, page 5-6, item 3.2], Stephan specifically teaches various building structure for example as detailed in fig 7, further user has the ability to manipulate and generate model that meets the requirements of the users using 3D-octoCAD.

19. As to Claim 13, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a data registration tool provider which upon request from a computer of a provides via the network system the database with a data registration tool' [col 2, line 20-37, col 9, line 12-16], 'data is registered via the network system' [see fig 1 and 3]. On the other hand Stephan disclosed interior displaying data that including furniture as shown in fig 7.

20. As to Claim 14, Broerman teaches 'browser is configured to enable the prospective purchaser to obtain the data by accessing web site' [see fig 5, col 9, line 10-17]. On the other hand, Stephan disclosed 'furniture display data stored in the database publicized on the Internet at a web site virtually displaying furniture' [fig 7a-7b, page 5-6]

21. As to Claim 15, 17-19, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system capable of providing information regarding a housing related commodity to a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system' [see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1;

'a database which stores plurality of interior display data including information regarding interior equipment of the housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores data related to housing corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17;

'a housing data creating tool provider which upon request from the computer of the prospective purchaser, provides via the network system a housing data creating tool with which housing display data including information regarding a layout of the housing is created [col 9, line 12-17, col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-5];

'a browser provider that provides a browser to the computer of the prospective purchaser in response to a request from the computer, the browser enabling the prospective purchaser to view, including at least a first display performing section' [see fig 5A-5B, col 11, 1-12]; purchaser corresponds to fig 3, element 13 buyer; first display, second display, and third display are integral part of both Broerman and Stephan's teachin because both Stephan, and Broerman specifically teaches user

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interface, displaying various data to both buyer, seller; 'enables the prospective purchaser to change a viewpoint from which the interior of the housing is seen' [col 12, line 10-15]; 'a third display performing section that enables the prospective purchaser to select the interior equipment of the housing to be displayed' [col 12, line 63-67];

'a data transmitter that transmits the interior display data stored in the database to the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system in response to a request from the browser on the computer of the prospective purchaser' [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65].

It is however, noted that Broerman does not specifically teach 'a three-dimensional display of the housing', 'a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data', On the other hand, Stephan disclosed 'a three-dimensional display of the housing', 'a three dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data' [see fig 7a-7b, page 5-6], three dimensional display of the housing corresponds to Stephan's fig 7a-7b.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both Stephan, Broerman are directed to interactive computer system, more specifically Broerman is directed to real estate related information, Broerman also teaches real estate computer network, more specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract, while Stephan specifically directed to interactive modeling of 3-D environments that including various applications for example one application being in

industrial environments such as overview of a chemical factory layout in 3-d view, also teaches architecture of house and monuments for example as detailed in fig 7a-7b.

One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional models, especially OctoCAD model imported in various CAD programs because that would have allowed users of Broerman to display various real estate properties in 3-D viewing to the potential customers [both buyers and sellers], further more allows search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size or images of 3-D models as suggested by Stephan [see page 5-6], thus improving quality and reliability of the system.

22. As to Claim 16, Broerman teaches a system which including 'a housing related commodity sales support system capable of providing information regarding housing related commodity to a computer of a prospective purchaser via a network system' [see Abstract, fig 1,4], a housing related commodity corresponds to Broerman's real estate related information, terminal of a computer of a prospective purchaser via network system corresponds to Broerman's real estate computer network, fig 1;

'a database which stores, display data including information regarding an interior of a housing' [col 6, line 19-26, col 9, line 12-17, line 45-49], a database which stores data related to housing corresponds to Broerman's property database fig 3-4, element 20, further it is noted that Broerman specifically suggests property record including

property description, dimension of rooms, and other features as detailed in col 9, line 15-17;

'a housing data creating tool provider which, upon request from the computer of the prospective purchaser, provides via the network system a housing data creating tool with which housing display data including information regarding a layout of the housing is created via the network' [col 9, line 12-17, col 10, line 63-67, col 11, line 1-5, fig 1-2], network corresponds to fig 1-2;

'a browser provider which provides a browser to the computer of the prospective purchaser in response to a request from the computer, the browser enabling the prospective purchaser to view'[Abstract, col 7, line 17-21], Broerman specifically teaches real estate computer network where potential seller and buyer or purchaser utilize on-line real time interactive communication related to listed properties as detailed in col 7, line 17-21], including at least a first display performing section' [see fig 5A-5B];, 'a second display performing section that enables the prospective purchaser to change a view point from which the interior of the housing is seen' [see col 8, line 24-34], Broerman specifically teaches electronic purchase contract that allows to not only receive, modify, but also view and express opinion by both purchaser and seller over the computer network as detailed in col 8, line 24-34, 'third display performing section that enables the user to select, displayed in housing '[col 9, line 9-17], Broerman specifically teaches user to view real estate property records that including multiple listing services, dimension of room, fixtures and features and like as detailed in col 9,

line 9-17; 'terminal of the computer of the prospective purchaser' [fig 1, fig 3], purchaser corresponds to fig 3, element 13 buyer;'

'a data transmitter which, upon request from the browser on the computer of the prospective purchaser, transmits the interior display data stored in the database to the computer of the prospective purchaser via the network system [col 6, line 9-12, col 8, line 56-65]. It is however, noted that Broerman does not specifically teach 'plurality of furniture display data for displaying an image of a furniture', a three-dimensional display of the housing', housing as a three-dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data'

On the other hand, Stephan teaches 'plurality of furniture display data for displaying an image of a furniture', a three-dimensional display of the housing', housing as a three-dimensional virtual space based on the housing display data' [see pae 5-6, fig 7a-7b], three dimensional display of the housing corresponds to Stephan's fig 7a-7b.

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman because both Stephan, Broerman are directed to interactive computer system, more specifically Broerman is directed to real estate related information, Broerman also teaches real estate computer network, more specifically real estate transactions between buyer and seller as detailed in fig 3, Abstract, while Stephan specifically directed to interactive modeling of 3-D environments that including various applications for example one application being in



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industrial environments such as overview of a chemical factory layout in 3-d view, also teaches architecture of house and monuments for example as detailed in fig 7a-7b.

One of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention would have been motivated to incorporate the teachings of Stephan et al., into real estate computer network of Broerman, more specifically modifying Broerman's fig 6 incorporate three dimensional models, especially OctoCAD model imported in various CAD programs because that would have allowed users of Broerman to display various real estate properties in 3-D viewing to the potential customers [both buyers and sellers], further more allows search real estate property of a specific dimensional or size or images of 3-D models as suggested by Stephan [see page 5-6], thus improving quality and reliability of the system.

### ***Response to Arguments***

23. Applicant's arguments filed on 7/22/2004, with respect to claims 1-19 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive, for examiner's response, see discussion below:

a) At page 17, claims 1-21, applicant argues that 'the browser includes a plurality of display performing sections that enable the performance of different functions, such as, for example enabling the prospective purchaser to change a view point from which the interior of the house is shown. Applicant submits that at least these features are

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neither disclosed or suggested, either individually or in the combination set forth by the examiner'.

As to the above argument [a], Broerman is directed to real estate computer network, more specifically, Broerman teaches real estate services for example, buyer, seller services, searching for comparable sales, electronic transactions, negotiating and like [see Abstract, col 6, line 41-55], furthermore, Broerman also teaches viewing property records, for example property records contain property graphics, interior, exterior and like as detailed in col 9, line 45-49]. Therefore, Broerman not only display various fields related to real estate property records, but also allows both buyers and sellers to view specific real estate properties that including property records, property exterior, interior and like.

b) At page 17, claims 1-21, applicant argues that Applicant submits that figs 4-5 of Broerman clearly discloses that the display of data or information is limited to character data, and does not provide a three-dimensional display of an image of a house, as is provided by Applicant's invention.

c) At page 18, claims 1-21, applicant argues that 'applicant submits that Broerman's system is for the exchange of character data for the transaction of real estate. Applicant submits that this document does not teach or suggest providing a three-dimensional image of a house .....

As to the above argument [b-c], examiner noted that applicant agreed that Broerman specifically teaches displaying of data, furthermore, examiner likes to draw applicant's attention that Broerman also specifically teaches property record contain property graphics as detailed in col 9, line 45-47. It is also noted that Broerman does not specifically teach three-dimensional display of an image of a house. On the other hand, Stephan specifically teaches three-dimensional display of an image of a house as detailed in page 5-6, fig 7a-7b.

In view of the applicant's amendment to the claims, examiner rejected claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Broerman, US Patent No. 6594633 in view of Stephan et al. "Interactive Modeling of 3D-environments", IEEE conference IECON, 1998.

24. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

### ***Conclusion***

#### **The prior art made of record**

- a. US Patent No. 6594633
- b. Stephan,A et al. interactive modeling of 3D-environments", IEEE 1998.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Srirama Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-4108. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popvici, can be reached on 571-272-4083. The fax phone numbers for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 703/872-9306

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)

SC  
*Patent Examiner.*  
December 21, 2004.

  
SRIRAMA CHANNAVAJJALA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER